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March 17, 1999 05:30 '99 MAR 19 P1:40

Dockets Management Branch
Food & Drug Administration
Dept. of Health & Human Resources
12420 Parklawn Drive, Room 1-23
Rockville, MD 20857

Re: Docket #98P-0203/CP

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Enclosed is my signed request that the FDA grant the above petition to eliminate the practice of forced molting of hens used in egg production. In the interests of human health alone this petition should be granted to help to avert the spread of Salmonella enteritidis infection. But in addition, the cruelty to the animals due to this practice is inexcusable. It's one thing to eat animals and animal products; it's another thing altogether to willfully ignore the severely inhumane conditions under which so many of these animals are raised. We pamper and fuss over our pets while turning a deaf ear and blind eye to the pain and suffering inflicted on animals we place in other categories. My concern extends as well to the emotional impact on the workers who must carry out these practices or jeopardize their jobs.

Please take the necessary steps to eradicate the practice of forced molting of hens used in egg production. Thank you for your efforts in this regard. I would appreciate the courtesy of a reply as to the status of these efforts.

Very truly yours,



Leslie Vandegrift

Enclosure

98P-0203

c611

Dear FDA,

Forced molting of hens used in egg production is cruel to the birds and increases the spread of Salmonella enteritidis infection. Please grant the petition, filed under docket #98P-0203/CP, that would eliminate this practice.

Signed Lislie Vandegrift

Address 6100 W. Virginia Ave

City, State, Zip Lakewood CO 80226

Send to: Dockets Management Branch, Food & Drug Administration, Dept. of Health & Human Services, 12420 Parklawn Drive, Room 1-23, Rockville, MD 20857.

Leslie Vandegrift or
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